

MINUTES

Stated Meeting of Presbytery de Cristo

October 18, 2014

CALL TO ORDER

Presbytery de Cristo of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) held its October Stated Meeting at Immanuel Presbyterian Church in Tucson. Peter Vogel, Moderator, opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. with prayer and the lighting of the Peace Candle.

Commissioners attending for the first time and other guests were welcomed. One corresponding member was introduced and approved for enrollment by Presbytery for this meeting, with voice but no vote.

Bob Schulz, Stated Clerk/Associate, reported that a quorum was present, consisting of three Teaching Elder members and the Ruling Elder members present, with at least three churches being represented by Ruling Elders.

ROLL

There were 30 Teaching Elder commissioners and 31 Ruling Elder commissioners, 3 Ruling Elder members of the Leadership Team and 5 Ruling Elder ministry moderators, present for a total of 69 voting members. There were 25 registered visitors.

Corresponding Members Enrolled

Rachel Egbein (PCUSA ACSWP)

Churches/Ministers/Elder Commissioners

P=present/E=excused/A=absent; number after minister=occupational code; number before elder commissioner= # of commissioners for church

Benson, Community

A Jon Hermes (101) (2)

Bisbee, Covenant

A Carlos Montaña HR (101) (2)

Casa Grande, First

A Ben Sellar (101) (3)

A Bill Heinle (107)

Cliff, Trinity

A David Goble (101) (2)

Coolidge, Community

Vacant (2) Kathy Fredley

Douglas, First

Vacant (3)

Florence, First

A John Johnson (101) (2)

Globe, First

P Bill Norton (101) (2) Janie Cooper
Misti Harmon

Green Valley, Valley

P Lawrence DeLong (101) (4) Jim Nelson

A Diane Christopher (103) Marie Valade

Miami, Divine Grace

Vacant (2) Ginny Jason
Barbara Kannegaard

Safford, Shepherd of the Valley

P Robbin MacDonald (101) (2)

San Manuel, Community

A Jeff Dixon (101) (1)

Sells, Papago United

Vacant (3)

Sierra Vista, Faith

P Virginia Studer (101) (2) Karen Thompson
Fred Whitley

Silver City, First

P Bob Reese (101) (2) Ruth McPherson
Ann Sherrell

Superior, Presbyterian Church of

P Mary Jo Norton (107) (1) Roy Chavez

Tucson, Christ

P Steve Melde (101) (3)

P Steve Brownson (107)

Tucson, Immanuel

P John Tittle (101) (3) Jack Gardiner

P Larry Biehl (107) Dan Thompson
Ed VanderWande

Tucson, Korean

P Myung Chon (108) (3)

Tucson, Mountain Shadows

E Rachel Srubas (101) (2)

Tucson, Northminster

P Andrew Ross (101) (5) Martha Allen

A Mary Beth McSwain (108) Russell Amling

A Kenneth Skodiak (103) Paul Carey

E Pete Seiferth (103) Marie Galloway

A John Cheek (103) Susan Naegle

Tucson, Southside

A Alison Harrington (101) (3) Carole Axinn
Paul Axinn

Tucson, St. Andrew's

A Jim Toole (101) (5) Le Ann McDaniel

P Carla Williams (103)

A Jennifer Wilcox Cummins (103)

Tucson, St. John on the Desert

P Lesley Abrams (107) (2) Jeanie Mangold

Tucson, St. Mark's

P Scott Opsahl (105) (2) Kerstin Miller
Pat Mulle

Tucson, The Holy Way

P Ray Thomas (101) (2) Gerry Pearson

Tucson, Tortolita

Vacant (2) Chuck Brown
Peggy Snyder

Tucson, Trinity

P	Jerry Foust (105)	(2)	Harriet Marsh
P	William Voigt (103)		Leone Mohney

Other Ministers

E	Midhat Abraham (797)	E	Joe Hawkins (299)
E	Mark Adams (405)	E	Ralph Hensley (299)
E	Lance Barker (299)	A	Alejandro Hernandez (405)
P	George Bitar (791)	E	James Hervey (299)
E	Kenneth Brown (405)	E	Edward Hunt (299)
E	William Brown (644)	E	Michael Japenga (797)
E	Dorothy Buchanan-Barrow (299)	E	James Jenson (299)
E	William Buehler (299)	E	Jung Sook Kim (797)
E	John Carr (797)	E	Gretchen Larson-Wolbrink (797)
E	John Chanslor (299)	A	Young Youl Lee (299)
E	Lerold Chase (299)	E	Edmund Lowe (299)
E	Paul Choi (797)	E	Della Moore (299)
E	Walter Clark (299)	P	Brad Munroe (304)
E	James Cobb (299)	E	Bill Pennock (299)
A	Alberto Cordova (751)	E	George Pike (299)
E	John Davies (299)	E	William Rhoades (299)
P	Ellen Dawson (641)	E	John Ross (299)
E	William Dean (299)	E	Richard Rowley (299)
E	John Dunham (299)	E	Lee Sankey (299)
E	George Easley (299)	P	Robert Seel (299)
P	William Evans (299)	P	Don Shepherd (299)
E	David Fife (701)	P	Michael Smith (299)
E	John Fife (299)	E	Valerie St. John-DeLong (299)
E	Gary Gard (299)	E	John Stevenson (299)
P	Ann Graham-Johnson (299)	E	Ralph Strong (299)
P	Larry Graham-Johnson (299)	E	Patricia Toole (797)
P	Tom Green (299)	E	John Wall (299)
A	Jerrold Groves (299)	E	Dave Wasserman (299)
P	Stephanie Hamilton (641)	E	Marney Wasserman (299)
E	James Hargleroad (299)	E	Brandon Wert (797)
E	Roberta Hargleroad (299)	E	James Wilson (299)
P	Mary Harris (299)		

Ministry for Leadership

Debbie Bouchard	Bob Schulz
Frank Bouchard	

Ministry Moderators

Peggy Free (Nominating)	Bonnie Thompson (PWP)
Harriet Marsh (Preparation for Ministry)	Peter Vogel (Moderator)
Joey Samoy (MWO)	

Staff Members Present

Beth Kath	Carolyn McBurney
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AGENDA

Presbytery approved the agenda:

9:00 a.m.	Call to Order	Peter Vogel
9:05 a.m.	Opening Prayer and Lighting of the Peace Candle	
9:10 am	Welcoming First Time Commissioners, Teaching Elders, Guests	
	Enrolling Corresponding Members	
	Establishing a Quorum	
	Approving the Docket	
	Approving the Consent Agenda	
	Approving the Minutes of August 16, 2014 meeting	
	Receiving New Business	
	Being Greeted by our Host Congregation	John Tittle
	Sharing the Peace of Christ	Peter Vogel
9:20 a.m.	Worship and Celebration of the Lord’s Supper	
10:30 a.m.	General Assembly Commissioners Report	Peter Vogel
	Commissioners Presentation	
	Small Group Discussions	
	Plenary Discussion	
11:10 a.m. *	Open Space Courtyard Meeting – Presbytery Mission Partners	
Noon	Lunch	
1:00 p.m.	Reconvene for Presbytery Business	
1:05 p.m.	Tortolita Administration Commission Report	Ray Thomas
1:20 p.m.	Committee on Ministry Report	John Johnson
1:30 p.m.	Ministry for Service Election	Brad Munroe
1:35 p.m.	Ministry for Service Report	Peggy Free
1:45 p.m.	2015 Budget Report	Tommy Calhoun
1:50 p.m.	Presbytery Pastor Report	Brad Munroe
2:00 p.m.	New Presbytery Insurance Report	Bob Schulz
2:25 p.m.	Adjourn	

* Order of the Day

CONSENT AGENDA

Presbytery approved the Consent Agenda and its corrections, which are combined as follows, as a record of actions taken on behalf of Presbytery de Cristo in accordance with the responsibilities granted to the various ministry teams/committees/commissions under the Bylaws of the Presbytery:

10/18/14 Consent Agenda

ICA

1. Ministry for Leadership Report

Actions taken at the August 13, 2014 meeting

Confirmed dates and locations for 2015 Presbytery Meetings, as follows:

January 23 & 24 (combined)	Trinity	Tucson
April 25	TBA	
August 15 (combined)	Northminster	Tucson
October 17	First	Silver City, NM

Approved voting to amend the *Book of Order*, as approved by the 221st General Assembly, at the April 25, 2015 meeting of Presbytery de Cristo, on the following:

Item 06-05	G-2.0509	Renunciation of Jurisdiction
Item 06-06	G3.0301	Minimum of Operating Sessions and Teaching Elders in Pby
Item 06-12	G-2.0607 & G-2.0610	Preparation for Ministry Process
Item 07-02 (2)	G-5.0102	Interreligious Stance
Item 08-14	G-3.0106	PCUSA to Adopt a Child/Youth Protection Policy
Item 10-02	W-4.9000	Marriage

Approved voting to amend the *Book of Confessions* with the addition of the Confession of Belhar, as approved by the 221st General Assembly, at the April 25, 2015 meeting of Presbytery de Cristo.

Approved having the Committee on Representation nominate the representatives from Presbytery de Cristo to serve as board members on the Camp Council of Montlure Presbyterian Church Camp.

2. Ministry for Administration Report

Actions taken at the September 25, 2014 meeting

Approved accepting the proposed 2015-16 Presbytery de Cristo Budget and referring it to MFL for its acceptance prior to the budget being presented to the Presbytery for approval, and approved presenting to Presbytery an anticipated 2015 per capita rate remaining at \$35.

Approved granting authority to Bob Schulz in his role as Stated Clerk/Associate to continue with the previously agreed upon terms for dismissal of Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church in Ajo and to proceed with the sale of the manse.

Approved recommending that the Ministry for Leadership (Presbytery de Cristo) and Leadership Team (Presbytery of Grand Canyon) draft an overture to the 222nd General Assembly petitioning for relief for churches from the interest assessed on PC(USA) mortgage grants issued years ago with terms which did not include an end date for repayment of the grant if the church leaves the denomination or the corresponding assessed interest on the grant if the church leaves the denomination.

Approved postponing discussion on granting a loan to the House of Neighborly Service until more research was done to gather more information.

Approved having Bob Schulz contact Hugh Wood, Inc. to request a quote for insurance coverage for all Presbytery de Cristo churches, as well as associated programs such as HNS, YAV and Campus Ministries, and that the Hugh Wood coverage information as distributed to Presbytery of Grand Canyon churches be shared with Presbytery de Cristo in the October presbytery packet.

3. Committee on Ministry Report

Actions taken at the September 4, 2014 meeting

Ross, John

Approved the transfer of membership of the Rev. John Ross (HR) from Peace River Presbytery to Presbytery de Cristo, effective September 4, 2014.

Wasserman, Marney

Granted the status of Honorably Retired to the Rev. Marney Wasserman, effective November 18, 2014.

Temporary Moderator

Approved the appointment of RE Liz Lopshire-Kading to serve as Moderator of the Session meeting of the Community Presbyterian Church of Benson on September 17, 2014.

Criminal Background Checks

Postponed action on requiring a criminal background check until research was done and a motion was brought to COM, with the provision that in the meantime criminal background checks would be required, as appropriate, for Teaching Elder and CRE candidates seeking to serve a congregation.

Minimum Salary Requirement

Approved setting the minimum effective salary, for PC(USA) pension purposes (salary + housing), for Teaching Elders in Presbytery de Cristo at \$45,000, with the presbytery's minimum effective salary to be reviewed annually.

Actions taken at the October 2, 2014 meeting

Brownson, Steve

Approved renewal of the commission of Steve Brownson to serve as Commissioned Ruling Elder to Christ Presbyterian Church for a period of three years, effective March 22, 2013, through March 21, 2016, subject to 30 days notice for termination.

Payment of BOP Dependent Insurance Fee

Approved recommending to Presbytery de Cristo that the new Board of Pension fee of 1.5% of effective salary for medical coverage for eligible dependents, effective January 1, 2015, be required to be paid by employing organizations. In cases where an employee's dependent(s) are covered by other insurance providing equivalent coverage to the employee's dependent(s) at equal or lower cost to the employing organization, an exception may be granted to a Session by COM.

Tortolita Presbyterian Church

Authorized creation of a Designated Pastor position at Tortolita Presbyterian Church, upon receipt of a request for that action from the Tortolita Session.

10/18/14 Consent Agenda

4CA

Approved, as recommended by the Tortolita Administrative Commission, the Session of Tortolita Presbyterian Church serving as the Designated Pastor Nominating Committee.

Approved a sub-committee of RE Josefina Ahumada, TE Scott Opsahl and TE Brad Munroe (ex-officio) to assist in screening PIFs and sending candidates to the Tortolita Session/DPNC for consideration.

Approved requesting that TE John Cheek serve as Moderator of the Session of Tortolita Presbyterian Church (or TE Pete Seiferth if John Cheek is unable to serve), effective as soon as possible.

Temporary Moderator

Ratified the appointment by COM Chair John Johnson of RE Liz Lopshire-Kading to serve as Moderator of the Session of Covenant Presbyterian Church in Bisbee on September 21, 2014.

Temporary Moderator

Approved the appointment of TE Jim Cobb to serve as Moderator of the Session of Community Presbyterian Church in Coolidge, effective November 1, 2014.

Appointment of Moderators

Approved authorizing the COM Chair, upon consultation with the Presbytery Pastor or Stated Clerk/Associate, to appoint a Moderator for a Session or Congregational meeting should the need arise between meetings of COM, with the appointment to be ratified at the next COM meeting.

4. Committee on Preparation for Ministry Report

Actions taken at the June 5, 2014 meeting

Norton, Mary Jo

Approved Mary Jo Norton as ready to be commissioned by Presbytery de Cristo as a Commissioned Ruling Elder (CRE) and approved referring Mary Jo to the Committee on Ministry for their consideration.

5. Stated Clerk Report

COMBINED PRESBYTERY PERSONNEL TEAM FORMED

As outlined in the Joint Presbytery Staffing Plan adopted by both presbyteries on March 2, 2013, the Joint Presbytery Personnel Team concluded their work by finalizing Personnel Review Procedures and a Personnel Policy for the combined Presbytery Staff. Initial members to form a Combined Presbytery Personnel Team were selected for 2014:

Presbytery de Cristo

Lesley Abrams

Linda Freeman

Susan Naegle

Presbytery of Grand Canyon

Louis Jacobo

Edward Spence

Molly Winkler, Chair

It was requested that the overseeing Presbytery committees (Ministry for Administration for de Cristo and Operations for Grand Canyon) maintain three representatives each to serve on this Team going forward.

REPORT ON REVIEW OF SESSION RECORDS

The Session records of the following churches were reviewed and approved on August 16, 2014:

Christ	Silver City First
Community Benson	St. Andrew's
Divine Grace	St. John on the Desert
Immanuel	St. Mark's
Mountain Shadows	Superior
Northminster	The Holy Way

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the August 16, 2014 Stated Meeting were approved as presented.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

WELCOME FROM HOST CONGREGATION

The Rev. John Tittle, Pastor, welcomed Presbytery to Immanuel and thanked the church staff, volunteers, and musicians for their assistance. He announced that Immanuel had recently refurbished their sanctuary in anticipation of the upcoming celebration of the congregation's 50th anniversary in September. Presbyters shared the Peace of Christ.

WORSHIP AND CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Rev. John Tittle delivered the sermon. The Revs. John Tittle and Ellen Dawson presided over the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Immanuel's Sanctuary Choir and Alternative Worship team participated in the service.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY COMMISSIONERS REPORT

Dick Kampa, RE commissioner, reported that 14 committees discussed 70 overtures before bringing them to plenary sessions during the 221st GA in June 2014. The theme was "Abounding in Hope" based on Romans 15:13. Volunteers from local congregations welcomed the 2600 attendees, which included 654 voting delegates. The Young Adult Advisory Delegates (YAADs) were very visible and Dick was impressed with their judgment. He was surprised that the impetus for many overtures appeared to originate with the GA staff and that the umbrella of social justice seemed to be involved in the culture of our day. He felt, however, that a determined, dedicated minority still could have a voice.

Bill Norton, TE commissioner, commented on the long days, work and preparation involved. He thought the proceedings were handled well by the moderator and that the power and logic of using Roberts Rules was apparent. Like Dick, he was impressed with the YAADs and found them articulate and stimulating to be around, and thought the delegates took their counsel on overtures seriously.

There was a time for discussion as Presbytery commissioners broke into small groups to discuss: 1.) What should be the role of the Church's moral voice in our culture? and 2.) How do you see your congregation responding in a positive, faithful manner in proclaiming the truth of Jesus Christ?

Feedback from those discussions included that Christians need to take part in political dialog and speak up as led by what each person feels the will of God is. Many had discussed how their congregations' individual members did not always agree with each other and, in fact, represented the full spectrum of political/cultural opinion but still remained unified in their collective faith witness.

PRESBYTERY MISSION PARTNERS

As presbyters were dismissed with prayer for lunch, they were invited to stop in the courtyard and meet with representatives of six mission partners in the courtyard: Presbyterian Campus Ministries, House of Neighborly Service, Middle Eastern Presbyterian Fellowship, Young Adult Volunteers, Frontier de Cristo and Montlure Presbyterian Church Camp.

TORTOLITA ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION REPORT

Ray Thomas spoke on behalf of the commission, which had submitted a written report in the Presbytery meeting packet. They had held a Town Hall forum and provided other ways for Tortolita members to give feedback. Three areas of concern were identified: systemic conflict, lack of effective leadership, and need for more transparent finances. Ray reported that there were healthy signs of recovery, with the Session taking an active leadership role. The Administrative Commission, in agreement with the Ministry for Leadership, made the following recommendations which were approved:

MOTION: That the Committee on Ministry in conjunction with the Tortolita Presbyterian Church Session engage the process and hire a part-time temporary pastor who will serve on a designated basis with a renewable two-year contract.

MOTION: That the Small Church Initiative being developed through COM be used at Tortolita.

MOTION: That the current Administrative Commission continue in an advisory capacity until well after the new pastor is in place.

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY REPORT

Jim Nelson presented a motion from the Committee regarding a new Board of Pension medical fee for 2015. There was a question from one pastor whose congregation had already decided that the pastor would have to pay the fee. The response was that the church's decision was valid since it preceded the Presbytery's vote on the issue. The following was then approved:

MOTION: That the new Board of Pension fee of 1.5% of effective salary for medical coverage for eligible dependents, effective January 1, 2015, be required to be paid by employing organizations in Presbytery de Cristo. In cases where an employee's dependent(s) are covered by other insurance providing equivalent coverage to the employee's dependent(s) at equal or lower cost to the employing organization, an exception may be granted to a Session by COM.

MINISTRY FOR SERVICE NOMINATION

Brad Munroe presented the following nominee. There being no nominations from the floor, the following was approved:

MINISTRY FOR SERVICE

2017	Martha Allen	RE	2 nd term	Northminster, Tucson
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MINISTRY FOR SERVICE REPORT

Peggy Free presented the slate of nominees. There being no nominations from the floor, the following were approved:

MINISTRY FOR LEADERSHIP

2015	Linda Freeman	RE	Moderator-Elect	Valley, Green Valley
2015	Stephanie Hamilton	TE	Moderator	Montlure
2015	Pete Vogel	RE	Past Moderator	First, Casa Grande
2016	Bonnie Thompson	RE	1 st term	Northminster, Tucson
2017	Charlie Ashton	RE	2 nd term	Valley, Green Valley
2017	Ken Skodiak	TE	1 st term	Northminster, Tucson

MINISTRY FOR ADMINISTRATION

2017	Larry Norrid	RE	2 nd term	St. Andrew's, Tucson
2017	Janet Rowe	RE	1 st term	Christ, Tucson

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

2017	Scott Opsahl	TE	2 nd term	St. Mark's, Tucson
2017	Dave Rockwell	RE	2 nd term	First, Sierra Vista
2017	Mike Smith	TE	2 nd term	HR
2017	Jim Toole	TE	2 nd term	St Andrew's, Tucson
2017	Cheryl Wood	RE	2 nd term	Immanuel, Tucson

COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY

2015	Steve Melde	TE	1 st term	Christ, Tucson
2017	Diane Christopher	TE	1 st term	Valley, Green Valley
2017	Harriet Marsh	RE	2 nd term	Trinity, Tucson
2017	Bill Norton	TE	1 st term	First, Globe
2017	Carla Williams	TE	1 st term	St. Andrew's, Tucson

COMMITTEE ON REPRESENTATION

2015	Myung Chon	TE	1 st term	Korean, Tucson
2017	Teena Cross	RE	2 nd term	Southside, Tucson

MINISTRY FOR WITNESS AND OUTREACH

2015	Cheryl Larson	RE	1 st term	Tortolita, Tucson
2017	George Bitar	TE	2 nd term	MEPF

SYNOD OF THE SOUTHWEST COMMISSIONERS

2017	Lee Harbers	RE	2 nd term	St. Andrew's, Tucson
2017	Larry Biehl	CRE	2 nd term	Immanuel, Tucson

MINISTRY FOR ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Tommy Calhoun reported on the proposed 2015-2016 Presbytery Budget. He said the amount for per capita would be less than the previous year due to the loss of 370 members. New revenue from an oil lease was anticipated to begin. A 3% cost of living increase was planned for staff. The new combined staffing plan had created an annual savings of \$36,000.

PRESBYTERY PASTOR REPORT

Brad Munroe encouraged presbyters to measure the Presbytery's results by the bottom line, but with the measurement calculated by changed lives and transformation in our communities. Despite the many denominational and other distractions, he asked that we keep focused on de Cristo ministries.

NEW BUSINESS

The following was approved:

MOTION: To approve the dissolution of the pastoral relationship between the Rev. Robbin MacDonald and Shepherd of the Valley Presbyterian Church, at his request, and to grant Rev. Mac Donald the status of Honorably Retired, effective January 1, 2015, with appreciation for his service to the Presbytery and his ministry to the congregation of Shepherd of the Valley.

PRESBYTERY INSURANCE REPORT

Bob Schulz reported on the possibility of changing to another insurance carrier. Information on the process recently followed by the Presbytery of Grand Canyon in changing to Hugh Woods had been included in the Presbytery commissioners' packet. Bob explained that in addition to more coverage for the same cost, Hugh Woods had offered Grand Canyon special cost packages for small churches. He was planning to recommend that Presbytery de Cristo look into switching insurance carriers. He explained that this change could not take effect at the beginning of 2015, but might be possible by May 2015 with churches then to receive a rebate on any fees already paid to Church Mutual.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Immanuel congregation was thanked for its hospitality. The motion was made to adjourn and the meeting was closed in prayer at 1:50 p.m. by Peter Vogel. The next Stated Meeting of Presbytery was scheduled for January 23-24, 2015, at First Presbyterian Church in Casa Grande.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the October 18, 2014 Stated Meeting of Presbytery de Cristo were approved by the Presbytery at its Stated Meeting on January 23, 2015.

S/Robert S. Schulz

Robert S. Schulz, Stated Clerk/Associate

January 23, 2015

Date